

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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SUBJECT: SOVIET SHIP VISIT TO JAPAN

REFS: (A) STATE 174267, (B) MOSCOW 10617

SUMMARY: EMBASSY INFORMED SOVIET MINISTRY OF MARITIME FLEET (MORFLOT) ON AUGUST 3 OF OPERATIONAL INFORMATION CONTAINED STATE REFTEL REGARDING SOVIET FLAG SHIP CALL TO PORT OF SAIPAN. BASIC GUIDELINES FOR VISA-ENTRY PERMITS WERE ALSO PROVIDED. USG SHOULD EXPECT SOVIET EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO INITIATE FOLLOW-UP IN NEAR FUTURE.
END SUMMARY.

1. IN AUGUST 3 MEETING WITH MORFLOT OFFICIALS (PALADICH AND GHITSOU) EMBOFFS, DRAWING ON NUTS-AND-BOLTS PORTIONS OF STATE REFTEL AND ON ADVICE OF EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION, DISCUSSED VISIT TO JAPANESE-CHARTERED SOVIET FLAG VESSEL MARIA ULYANOVA TO PORT OF SAIPAN. FOLLOWING POINTS WERE MADE: A) PORT AUTHORITY WILL NEED INFORMATION ON VESSEL PARTICULARS TO DETERMINE SUITABILITY OF BERTHING AND MOORING FACILITY; B) ENTRY PERMIT FOR VESSEL WILL BE PROCESSED IAW TITLE 53 TTC, AS AMENDED, PART 12 VOL. 1 NO. 1 OF THE TERRITORIAL REGISTER; C) RESIDENT COMMISSIONER

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WOULD REQUIRE CERTIFIED COPY OF VESSEL REGISTRY AND CREW MANIFEST PRIOR TO TAKING FURTHER ACTION; D) ALIENS IN POSSESSION OF NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS FOR UNITED STATES WHO SEEK TO VISIT MARIANAS FOR NOT LONGER THAN 30 DAYS MAY DO SO WITHOUT AN ENTRY PERMIT; E) ALIENS WITHOUT NON-IMMIGRANT VISA NEED ENTRY PERMIT ISSUED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER. NAMES OF UNITED ORIENT SHIPPING AND AGENCY COMPANY AND

AICHI SENENDAN COUNCIL OF NAGOYZ JAPAN WERE ALSO PROVIDED.

2. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF WILLINGNESS OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS GOVERNMENT TO HAVE VISIT TAKE PLACE (PARA 3 STATE REFTEL) OR OF OVERALL PERMISSIBILITY OR SUITABILITY OF SUCH A CALL (PARA 2 STATE REFTEL).

3. PALADICH SAID MORFLOT UNDERSTOOD THAT SUCH A SHIP VISIT WAS OUTSIDE THE PURVIEW OF THE 1975 US-USSR MARITIME AGREEMENT. HE DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THAT WORDING IN ITS PREAMBLE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE INTENT OF THE AGREEMENT IS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS, AND THUS, HE INFERRED, NOT TO COMPLICATE MATTERS WHICH DID NOT HAPPEN TO BE COVERED SPECIFICALLY. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ALL WOULD PROCEED SMOOTHLY. ACTING E/C COUNSELOR INDICATED THAT EMBASSY HAD NO REASON AT THIS STAGE TO EXPECT OBSTACLES OR DIFFICULTIES ABOUT THIS CALL AT SAIPAN. HOWEVER, HE URGED THAT SOVIET EMBASSY SEEK FURTHER INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATIONS OF PROCEDURES IN WASHINGTON.

4. PALADICH SAID THAT BASIC RESPONSIBILITY, OF COURSE, RESTS WITH CHARTERER, BUT MORFLOT WISHES TO KNOW WHAT IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO ACT SMOOTHLY ON ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. MORFLOT PLANS TO ASK SOVIET EMBASSY WASHINGTON (PROBABLY ASSISTANT MARITME REPRESENTATIVE) TO TAKE UP SPECIFICS OF ENTRY PERMIT (PARA 2B ABOVE) IN WASHINGTON. USG SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPECT TO BE CONTACTED SHORTLY.
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